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LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

MAY 1984

RELEASE DATE:
JUNE 25, 1984

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(in thousands)	PRELIMINARY MAY 1984 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	REVISED APRIL 1984 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	REVISED MAY 1983 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,930.7	1,759.2	171.5	8.9	1,916.6	1,745.6	171.0	8.9	1,929.9	1,692.4	237.5	12.3
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	77.5	70.5	7.0	9.1	77.3	70.3	7.0	9.2	77.3	68.1	9.2	12.0
Baton Rouge 2/	244.8	227.0	17.8	7.3	243.6	226.1	17.5	7.2	240.8	216.2	24.6	10.2
Lafayette 3/	96.7	91.0	5.7	5.9	96.3	90.7	5.6	5.8	97.7	89.5	8.2	8.4
Lake Charles 4/	75.4	65.3	10.1	13.4	75.7	65.7	10.0	13.2	79.0	67.7	11.3	14.3
Monroe 5/	58.5	53.3	5.2	8.9	58.4	53.4	5.0	8.6	60.9	54.2	6.7	11.0
New Orleans 6/	537.1	494.0	43.1	8.0	533.3	491.4	41.9	7.9	533.6	476.2	57.4	10.7
Shreveport 7/	171.9	159.6	12.3	7.1	170.5	157.8	12.7	7.4	171.3	151.2	20.1	11.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during May stood at 1,576,200, an increase of 7,000 workers above April's level and 11,100 higher than May a year ago. Louisiana's nonmanufacturing employment increase was centered in construction, trade and services. The state's manufacturing industries showed higher payrolls in both the durable and nondurable goods segments.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing went up by 500 workers from April's level. Stone, clay and glass products employment was higher this month as the production of pottery and related products increased. More employees engaged in manufacturing communication equipment accounted for the higher level in electric and electronic equipment. Transportation equipment payrolls were up as a result of an increase in business for ship and boat building and repairing firms.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing for May amounted to 98,000, an increase of 400 above last month's level, but a drop of 1,800 from May of last year. A seasonal increase in seafood canning and packaging primarily accounted for the upturn in food and kindred products payrolls. Apparel and other textile products employment was up as a result of more business throughout much of this sector. Paper and allied products employment edged up due to increased activity at paperboard mills, increased production of paperboard containers and boxes, and increased manufacture of certain miscellaneous converted paper products. Higher petroleum and coal products industry employment was centered in the petroleum refining segment. Chemicals and allied products payrolls were down from last month's level.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing industries, at 1,396,500 for the current month, was 6,100 above last month's level and 9,700 higher than May a year ago. Mining employment was down as a result of a slowdown in the exploration for oil and gas. An upturn in heavy construction contributed most to the higher construction payrolls in May. Transportation and public utilities employment for the current month was up due to an increase in the railroad transportation segment. More business for eating and drinking places contributed most to the increase in trade employment. Real estate was amoung the segments that were instrumental in the increase of finance, insurance and real estate employment. Government employment stayed at the same level as last month.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 124,500 production workers in manufacturing decreased from $425.80 in April to $422.66 in May, a decrease of $3.14, but an increase of $32.62 above the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were seven cents higher in May than last month and $0.36 more than May of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.6 the current month, down by 0.6 hours from last month.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for May amounted to 171,500, an increase of 500 over the April level of 171,000. The unemployment rate for May was 8.9 percent, the same as last month's rate but 3.4 percentage points below the May a year ago figure of 12.3 percent. The comparable national unemployment rate for May was 7.2 percent compared to 7.6 percent in April and 9.8 percent in May a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force went from 1,916,600 in April to 1,930,700 in May, an increase of 14,100. Total employment for Louisiana moved from 1,645,600 in April to 1,759,200 in May, an increase of 13,600.

Unemployment in the upcoming month is expected to increase due to an influx of students into the labor force. Manufacturing employment may increase next month due in part to seasonal influences. Nonmanufacturing segments such as construction and trade are expected to add employees over the summer months. Services and government employment may fall during the next month or two.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change from Apr. 1984	Net Change from May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,576.2	1,569.2	1,565.1	+ 0.7	+ 11.1
MINING AND QUARRYING	76.6	77.2	79.9	- 0.6	- 3.3
Oil and Gas Extraction	73.4	74.1	76.7	- 0.7	- 3.3
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.2	3.1	3.2	+ 0.1	0
CONSTRUCTION	115.8	113.2	113.5	+ 2.6	+ 2.3
MANUFACTURING	179.7	178.8	178.3	+ 0.9	+ 1.4
Durable Goods	81.7	81.2	78.5	+ 0.5	+ 3.2
Lumber and Wood Products	13.4	13.4	12.9	0	+ 0.5
Furniture and Fixtures	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.7	7.6	7.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	13.2	13.2	13.3	0	- 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.8	9.8	9.8	0	0
Electric & Electronic Equipment	10.1	9.8	8.2	+ 0.3	+ 1.9
Transportation Equipment	20.9	20.8	20.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.4	2.4	2.1	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	98.0	97.6	99.8	+ 0.4	- 1.8
Food & Kindred Products	21.9	21.7	23.3	+ 0.2	- 1.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.3	9.1	8.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.2
Paper & Allied Products	11.8	11.7	11.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Printing & Publishing	9.8	9.8	9.8	0	0
Chemicals & Allied Products	28.9	29.1	30.4	- 0.2	- 1.5
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.5	12.4	12.9	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Petroleum Refining	11.8	11.7	12.2	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	114.6	114.3	118.1	+ 0.3	- 3.5
Railroad Transportation	7.5	7.2	7.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.5
Transportation, ex. Railroads	67.2	67.2	68.3	0	- 1.1
Communications & Public Utilities	39.9	39.9	42.8	0	- 2.9
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	374.4	372.5	367.4	+ 1.9	+ 7.0
Wholesale Trade	95.1	95.3	94.3	- 0.2	+ 0.8
Retail Trade	279.3	277.2	273.1	+ 2.1	+ 6.2
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	57.4	57.1	57.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Food Stores	51.2	51.0	50.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.7	30.7	30.3	0	+ 0.4
Eating & Drinking Places	88.0	86.4	82.8	+ 1.6	+ 5.2
Other Retail Trade	52.0	52.0	51.9	0	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	83.5	83.4	82.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Banking	27.8	27.8	27.8	0	0
SERVICES	312.5	310.7	306.2	+ 1.8	+ 6.3
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.7	22.3	21.4	+ 0.4	+ 1.3
Other Services	289.8	288.4	284.8	+ 1.4	+ 5.0
GOVERNMENT	319.1	319.1	319.0	0	+ 0.1
Federal	34.2	34.2	33.8	0	+ 0.4
State and Local	284.9	284.9	285.2	0	- 0.3
State	101.0	101.5	104.4	- 0.5	- 3.4
Local	183.9	183.4	180.8	+ 0.5	+ 3.1

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$422.66	$425.30	$390.04	41.6	42.2	39.8	$10.16	$10.09	$9.80
Durable Goods	392.40	398.65	352.63	41.7	42.5	39.4	9.41	9.38	8.95
Lumber & Wood Products	320.97	330.74	283.82	39.0	39.8	41.8	8.23	8.31	6.79
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	392.77	395.66	346.51	42.6	43.1	41.9	9.22	9.18	8.27
Fabricated Metal Products	388.09	398.50	374.80	42.6	43.6	40.0	9.11	9.14	9.37
Machinery, ex. Electrical	388.87	396.48	382.99	39.6	41.3	40.7	9.82	9.60	9.41
Electric & Electronic Equip.	442.40	428.41	391.33	43.5	43.1	38.9	10.17	9.94	10.06
Transportation Equipment	442.02	463.31	358.06	41.7	43.3	36.8	10.60	10.70	9.73
Nondurable Goods	450.69	450.84	427.07	41.5	41.9	40.1	10.86	10.76	10.65
Food & Kindred Products	269.51	277.93	252.54	37.8	39.2	36.6	7.13	7.09	6.90
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	171.77	184.40	152.50	34.7	36.3	35.3	4.95	5.08	4.32
Paper & Allied Products	492.16	506.20	499.38	43.4	43.6	42.0	11.34	11.61	11.89
Printing & Publishing	314.50	309.13	320.53	37.8	37.2	36.8	8.32	8.31	8.71
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	650.13	638.30	606.63	43.4	43.6	43.3	14.98	14.64	14.01
Petroleum & Coal Products	684.68	674.42	644.98	49.4	48.8	47.6	13.86	13.82	13.55
Petroleum Refining	687.89	682.16	659.33	49.1	48.9	47.4	14.01	13.95	13.91
MINING	542.14	574.09	522.35	46.1	48.9	45.7	11.76	11.74	11.43
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	462.80	466.06	437.70	40.0	39.8	38.7	11.57	11.71	11.31
BANKING	240.15	244.67	215.08	37.7	39.4	37.8	6.37	6.21	5.69

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 124,500 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 100,300 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY MAY 1984				REVISED APRIL 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	24,200	21,550	2,650	11.0	23,975	21,425	2,550	10.6
Oakdale (Allen)	6,475	5,275	1,200	18.6	6,425	5,175	1,250	19.4
Napoleonville (Assumption)	10,450	9,300	1,150	10.9	10,450	9,225	1,225	11.6
DeRidder (Beauregard)	12,150	10,850	1,300	10.8	11,900	10,650	1,250	10.4
Arcadia (Bienville)	7,275	6,675	600	8.2	7,300	6,675	625	8.5
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,900	4,425	475	9.8	4,800	4,300	500	10.3
Cameron (Cameron)	4,850	4,525	325	7.0	4,675	4,300	375	8.1
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,600	5,950	650	9.9	6,550	5,850	700	10.4
Homer (Claiborne)	7,525	6,950	575	7.6	7,475	6,875	600	7.9
Ferriday (Concordia)	9,525	8,450	1,075	11.2	9,325	8,275	1,050	11.4
Mansfield (DeSoto)	11,800	10,625	1,175	10.0	11,625	10,450	1,175	10.1
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	5,075	4,350	725	14.5	5,000	4,200	800	16.1
Clinton (East Feliciana)	7,950	7,350	600	7.7	7,850	7,250	600	7.7
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	14,275	12,575	1,700	11.9	14,175	12,450	1,725	12.1
Winnsboro (Franklin)	8,850	7,700	1,150	12.9	8,700	7,500	1,200	13.8
New Iberia (Iberia)	36,100	32,150	3,950	10.9	35,975	32,000	3,975	11.0
Plaquemine (Iberville)	15,225	13,750	1,475	9.6	15,125	13,625	1,500	10.0
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,400	5,925	475	7.4	6,275	5,825	450	7.2
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	13,275	11,600	1,675	12.7	13,075	11,375	1,700	12.9
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	38,750	34,950	3,800	9.8	38,450	34,600	3,850	10.0
Jena (LaSalle)	6,150	5,650	500	8.3	6,050	5,550	500	8.3
Ruston (Lincoln)	22,200	21,325	875	3.9	21,825	20,975	850	3.9
Tallulah (Madison)	5,550	4,925	625	11.4	5,525	4,800	725	13.1
Bastrop (Morehouse)	13,400	11,975	1,425	10.6	13,450	11,850	1,600	11.9
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	17,775	16,525	1,250	7.1	17,675	16,325	1,350	7.6
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,575	13,600	975	6.7	14,525	13,525	1000	6.9
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	13,350	12,175	1,175	8.9	13,150	12,000	1,150	8.6
Coushatta (Red River)	4,300	3,975	325	7.4	4,275	3,950	325	7.6
Rayville (Richland)	8,425	7,500	925	10.9	8,350	7,375	975	11.7
Many (Sabine)	8,275	7,600	675	8.2	8,150	7,500	650	8.0
Norco (St. Charles)	22,350	20,225	2,125	9.5	22,100	20,075	2,025	9.2
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,550	4,200	350	7.5	4,425	4,075	350	7.8
Lutcher (St. James)	11,350	10,075	1,275	11.3	11,150	10,000	1,150	10.3
Reserve (St. John)	18,025	16,075	1,950	10.9	17,700	15,825	1,875	10.6
Opelousas (St. Landry)	35,175	30,075	5,100	14.5	34,625	29,500	5,125	14.8
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	19,875	17,400	2,475	12.4	19,750	17,350	2,400	12.2
Morgan City (St. Mary)	32,750	28,925	3,825	11.7	32,625	28,725	3,900	11.9
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	35,175	30,550	4,625	13.2	34,600	29,900	4,700	13.5
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,125	2,825	300	10.0	3,100	2,750	350	10.9
Houma (Terrebonne)	46,075	41,675	4,400	9.6	45,775	41,175	4,600	10.0
Farmerville (Union)	7,900	7,125	775	9.9	7,725	6,975	750	9.7
Abbeville (Vermilion)	25,650	22,975	2,675	10.4	25,100	22,425	2,675	10.7
Leesville (Vernon)	12,350	11,050	1,300	10.4	12,250	10,850	1,400	11.4
Bogalusa (Washington)	14,725	12,800	1,925	13.1	14,625	12,675	1,950	13.2
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,425	3,475	950	21.5	4,375	3,375	1,000	22.9
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,875	3,650	225	5.7	3,825	3,575	250	6.3
Winnfield (Winn)	5,775	5,225	550	9.3	5,650	5,075	575	10.2

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change From Apr. 1984	Net Change From May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	54.1	54.2	53.5	- 0.1	+ 0.6
MANUFACTURING	5.3	5.3	5.2	0	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
Nondurable Goods	2.5	2.5	2.4	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	48.8	48.9	48.3	- 0.1	+ 0.5
Construction	3.3	3.4	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.5	12.4	12.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
Retail Trade	9.8	9.7	9.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	1.9	1.9	1.9	0	0
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
Other Retail Trade	4.3	4.2	4.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Services & Mining	11.8	11.8	11.6	0	+ 0.2
Health Services	5.2	5.2	5.0	0	+ 0.2
Other Services & Mining	6.6	6.6	6.6	0	0
Government	15.8	15.9	15.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.7	0	+ 0.1
State	5.8	5.8	5.8	0	0
Local	7.2	7.3	7.2	- 0.1	0

(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria Labor Market Area was estimated at 54,100 during May. This employment is 100 less than last month and 600 more than this month a year ago.

Total employment in manufacturing remained unchanged since the previous month. Since May of last year employment in manufacturing has increased 100 and the gain was in nondurable goods.

Total employment in nonmanufacturing industries fell 100 during the past thirty days, and increased 500 since May of last year. Estimates for May revealed slight decreases in employment in the construction and government segment, with a slight gain in retail trade. Compared to May of last year each major segment shows an increase, except transporatation, communication, and utilities and construction.

During the next thirty days the number of employed should decrease and the unemployment rate should go up. These changes will be seasonal due to the influx of both students, and some school personnel into the labor market.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change From Apr. 1984	Net Change From May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	210.2	209.8	205.2	+ 0.4	+ 5.0
MANUFACTURING	22.2	22.1	22.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	4.4	4.3	3.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.0	1.0	0.8	0	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	0.9	0.8	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	2.0	1.9	1.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	17.8	17.8	18.4	0	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	2.2	2.1	2.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.0	13.1	13.9	- 0.1	- 0.9
Other Nondurable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.0	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	188.0	187.7	183.1	+ 0.3	+ 4.9
Mining	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
Construction	20.4	20.2	20.6	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Transportation and Public Utilities	9.9	9.9	10.1	0	- 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	50.7	50.9	47.6	- 0.2	+ 3.1
Wholesale Trade	11.3	11.5	11.1	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	39.4	39.4	36.5	0	+ 2.9
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.5	12.4	12.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Services	39.6	39.4	38.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.3
Government	54.0	54.0	53.2	0	+ 0.8

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$499.48	$506.33	$468.12	42.8	43.8	41.5	$11.67	$11.56	$11.28
Petro-Chemicals	653.14	672.95	642.86	45.2	46.7	45.4	14.45	14.41	14.16

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,000 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA was estimated at 210,200 during May, up 400 over April's revised estimate of 209,800 and up 5,000 over the total for last May. Manufacturing was up 100 and nonmanufacturing increased 300 during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing at 22,200 in May, was up 100 over April's revised estimate. Durable goods were up due to a seasonal increase in blast furnaces, steel works and rolling and finishing mills, and more business in miscellaneous machinery, except electrical. Nondurable goods had no change.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 188,000 during May, was up 300 over April's revised estimate. Mining, transportation and public utilities, retail trade and government had no change during the current period. Construction was up due to more business for general building contractors. Finance, insurance and real estate was up due to increased activity in commercial and stock savings banks. Services were up due to more business in hotels and motels and in legal services. Wholesale trade was down due to less business in chemical and allied products.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's estimated 12,000 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $499.48 in May, down $6.85 from April's revised average. Average weekly hours were down 1.0 hour and average hourly earnings were up $0.11. Less overtime worked contributed to these changes.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 2,300 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 382 applicants in jobs during May.

The consumer price index for April, 1984 for all urban consumers was 308.8 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 304.1 using base period 1967=100.

Total employment of the Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 227,000 during May, up 900 over the April revised estimate and up 10,800 over May of last year. Unemployment at 17,800 was up 300 over last month's revised estimate; however, it was down 6,800 from the year ago total. May's unemployment rate at 7.3 percent is up from the revised 7.2 percent for last month. The state current rate is 8.9 percent. The local civilian labor force totaled 244,600 during May, up 1,200 during May and up 10,800 over the total for last May.

Seasonal factors that include student workers seeking summer employment during the coming months will increase the unemployment and unemployment rate during the summer months.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change From Apr. 1984	Net Change From May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	88.5	88.4	89.2	+ 0.1	- 0.7
MANUFACTURING	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	84.7	84.6	85.5	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Mining	16.5	16.9	16.5	- 0.4	0
Construction	4.9	5.0	5.3	- 0.1	- 0.4
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	6.8	6.7	6.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.8	23.4	23.6	+ 0.4	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	6.5	6.4	6.7	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	17.3	17.0	16.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.4
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.7	2.6	2.7	+ 0.1	0
Food Stores	2.6	2.5	2.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.5	1.5	1.6	0	- 0.1
Other Retail Trade	10.5	10.4	10.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.8	3.8	0	0
Services	18.5	18.4	18.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Government	10.4	10.4	11.0	0	- 0.6

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Lafayette's nonagricultural employment in May stood at 88,500, a decrease of 100 over April's level and 700 below a comparable period a year ago. The decrease was in nonmanufacturing in the segments of construction, transporation and utilities and government.

Mining for May stood at 16,500, a decrease of 400 from April and no change from the same period a year ago.

Construction stood at 4,900, a decrease of 100 from the previous month and 400 below a comparable period a year ago.

The wholesale and retail trade stood at 23,800, an increase of 400 from the previous month and 200 over the same period a year ago.

Government remained the same from the previous month but dropped 600 from May of 1983.

An increase in the unemployment rate is expected due to the influx of students into the labor force this summer. The economy is still not healthy enough to provide jobs for most of them entering the labor market.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change From Apr. 1984	Net Change From May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	58.5	59.0	62.3	- 0.5	- 3.8
MANUFACTURING	9.2	9.2	9.8	0	- 0.6
Durable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Nondurable Goods	8.4	8.4	9.0	0	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet Products	7.6	7.6	8.1	0	- 0.5
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	49.3	49.8	52.5	- 0.5	- 3.2
Mining	2.2	2.3	2.4	- 0.1	- 0.2
Construction	4.3	4.7	6.8	- 0.4	- 2.5
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.6	4.5	4.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.9	14.0	14.5	- 0.1	- 0.6
Wholesale Trade	3.3	3.4	3.2	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	10.6	10.6	11.3	0	- 0.7
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.1	2.1	2.3	0	- 0.2
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.4	3.4	3.2	0	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	2.9	0	- 0.1
Services	10.8	10.9	10.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.7	0.8	+ 0.1	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.5	10.4	10.7	+ 0.1	- 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Employment on area payrolls fell 500 to the current estimate of 58,500. Manufacturing remained unchanged while nonmanufacturing suffered the entire loss. When compared to the year ago level, the current nonagricultural wage and salary employment total declined by 3,800. Manufacturing declined by 600 and nonmanufacturing by 3,200.

Manufacturing employment, in May, remained unchanged from April but fell 600 below May, 1983. Nonmanufacturing slipped 500 to the current estimate of 49,300. Losses in mining, construction, trade and services totalling 700 were offset by gains in transportation and public utilities, and government.

Unemployment climbed from 10,000 and a rate of 13.2 percent in April, to 10,100 and a rate of 13.4 percent in May, as summer job seekers and graduates entered the labor force following the end of the school year.

The outlook is for seasonally increasing unemployment and little change in employment.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change From Apr. 1984	Net Change From May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	50.2	50.4	52.1	- 0.2	- 1.9
MANUFACTURING	7.0	7.0	7.1	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.2	2.3	2.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.3	0.2	- 0.1	0
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	4.8	4.7	5.0	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	0.9	0.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.0	3.0	3.3	0	- 0.3
NONMANUFACTURING	43.2	43.4	45.0	- 0.2	- 1.8
Mining	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Construction	2.6	2.5	3.0	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.6	2.7	2.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.1	14.3	14.0	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	3.9	4.0	4.1	- 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	10.2	10.3	9.9	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	3.0	2.7	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.1	4.1	4.0	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.3	10.3	10.1	0	+ 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.2	4.3	4.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
Government	9.0	9.0	10.7	0	- 1.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, estimated at 50,200, was 200 below the April estimate of 50,400. The loss was in non-manufacturing.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,000, was unchanged from April, however, there were changes. Durable Goods was down 100, while Non-Durable Goods rose by 100.

Nonmanufacturing, estimated at 43,200, was 200 below the April estimate. Wholesale and Retail Trade was down 200. Transportation and Public Utilities was down by 100. Construction was up by 100. All other segments were unchanged.

Over the next 30 days employment is expected to decline slightly as educational facilities begin the summer vacation period. Unemployment is expected to rise as youths enter the labor force seeking summer employment.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change From Apr. 1984	Net Change From May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	511.0	508.8	504.3	+ 2.2	+ 6.7
MANUFACTURING	39.5	39.0	40.9	+ 0.5	- 1.4
Durable Goods	23.0	22.6	23.8	+ 0.4	- 0.8
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.6	2.6	2.4	0	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	3.2	3.2	3.3	0	- 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
Transportation Equipment	12.7	12.3	13.2	+ 0.4	- 0.5
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	7.8	7.5	8.8	+ 0.3	- 1.0
Other Durable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.6	0	- 0.5
Nondurable Goods	16.5	16.4	17.1	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	6.8	6.8	7.5	0	- 0.7
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.9	1.8	1.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	471.5	469.8	463.4	+ 1.7	+ 8.1
Mining	18.4	18.5	18.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
Construction	33.0	33.8	30.0	- 0.8	+ 3.0
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	46.4	46.9	47.2	- 0.5	- 0.8
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Water Transportation	15.8	16.4	16.2	- 0.6	- 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	130.8	129.9	128.2	+ 0.9	+ 2.6
Wholesale Trade	34.5	34.3	34.5	+ 0.2	0
Retail Trade	96.3	95.6	93.7	+ 0.7	+ 2.6
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	31.5	31.5	32.0	0	- 0.5
Services	127.1	124.9	123.1	+ 2.2	+ 4.0
Government	84.3	84.3	84.4	0	- 0.1
Federal	14.7	14.8	14.6	- 0.1	+ 0.1
State	20.2	20.3	22.1	- 0.1	- 1.9
Local	49.4	49.2	47.7	+ 0.2	+ 1.7

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$402.36	$396.68	$336.97	42.0	41.8	37.4	$9.58	$9.49	$9.01
Durable Goods	433.87	422.57	350.43	43.3	42.9	37.6	10.02	9.85	9.32
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	437.58	436.57	354.89	44.2	45.1	41.9	9.90	9.68	8.47
Fabricated Metal Products	458.17	480.62	378.79	46.8	49.6	38.3	9.79	9.69	9.89
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	421.34	394.61	317.28	41.8	39.5	34.6	10.08	9.99	9.17
Nondurable Goods	359.07	360.59	315.61	40.3	40.2	37.0	8.91	8.97	8.53
Food & Kindred Products	287.27	287.54	266.80	38.1	38.7	36.8	7.54	7.43	7.25
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	184.19	189.02	135.44	34.3	35.2	30.3	5.37	5.37	4.47
Paper & Allied Products	400.76	416.50	313.61	46.6	48.6	39.3	8.60	8.57	7.98
Printing & Publishing	390.21	367.28	289.18	44.8	41.5	37.9	8.71	8.85	7.63
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	577.75	572.22	580.43	39.9	39.6	41.4	14.48	14.45	14.02

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 25,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in May moved to 511,000, a level 2,200 above April. Highlighting all economic activity in the area was the opening of the 1984 World's Fair, which offset decreases in other segments of nonmanufacturing. Manufacturing pushed up in both durable goods and nondurable goods.

Manufacturing employment totaled 39,500 in May, 500 above last month. The most significant change was in ship and boatbuilding and repairing. Over 300 workers returned to area shipyards as work began on new contracts. Apparel and other textile products also reported some increases, while the other manufacturing segments held steady. Even though manufacturing employment reached the highest level of this year in May, it is still down 1,400 compared to this time last year.

Nonmanufacturing changes were dominated by the opening of the World's Fair. Services benefited from this eagerly awaited event more than any other industry division. Amusement services added a large number of workers. The hotel-motel industry was favored by the opening of the new hotels as well as by new hires by older establishments. Business services showed an increase. Partly offsetting these gains in the services division were a general decrease in private health services and a seasonal downward adjustment in private educational services. In retail trade, attracting much interest was the opening of a large downtown department store, which is expected to enhance the downtown area of the city substantially. Eating and drinking places benefited from the opening of the World's Fair. Wholesale trade pushed up in the durable goods segment. Construction inevitably exhibited a decrease as work on the fair site neared completion. Water transportation fluctuated downward. Mining tapered off although weather conditions were good for outside work. Finance, insurance, and real estate showed no overall change. In government, small decreases in federal government and state government were offset by a small gain in local government.

Production workers in the New Orleans area averaged $402.36 a week in May, $5.68 above last month's average. Average weekly hours increased by 12 minutes and average hourly earnings rose nine cents. Compared to one year ago, factory workers are earning an average $65.39 more a week.

Estimated unemployment in May pushed up to 43,100, a level 1,200 above April. The pre-summer increase in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force was mostly responsible. The gain in nonagricultural wage and salary employment prevented a larger overall upturn in unemployment. Current joblessness comprises 8.0 percent of the labor force compared to 7.9 percent in April and 10.7 percent in May of last year. The unemployment rate in May was lower than the state rate of 8.9 percent, but higher than the comparable national rate of 7.2 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance numbered 12,780. Approximately 44.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; about 31.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to show changes largely seasonal in nature. Construction and mining will benefit from summer weather conditions. Many segments of the economy will be favorably affected by the World's Fair. Partly offsetting gains will be seasonal decreases in public and private educational services. Unemployment will reflect the summer increase in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force, which will probably not be totally absorbed by employment gains.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change From Apr. 1984	Net Change From May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	151.6	150.1	147.0	+ 1.5	+ 4.6
MANUFACTURING	25.6	25.7	22.4	- 0.1	+ 3.2
Durable Goods	19.7	19.8	16.6	- 0.1	+ 3.1
Lumber and Wood Products	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	+ 0.1
Metals and Machinery	12.1	11.9	10.9	+ 0.2	+ 1.2
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	3.9	3.5	0	+ 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	8.2	8.0	7.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.8
Other Durable Goods	6.1	6.4	4.3	- 0.3	+ 1.8
Nondurable Good	5.9	5.9	5.8	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.6	1.6	1.5	0	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	126.0	124.4	124.6	+ 1.6	+ 1.4
Mining	6.5	6.3	6.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Construction	9.8	9.2	8.7	+ 0.6	+ 1.1
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	9.1	9.2	9.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	34.0	33.9	33.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	9.2	9.2	9.0	0	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	24.8	24.7	24.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.1	8.0	8.1	+ 0.1	0
Services	32.3	31.6	32.0	+ 0.7	+ 0.3
Government	26.2	26.2	26.5	0	- 0.3

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$414.83	$410.98	$365.98	42.2	42.5	39.1	$9.83	$9.67	$9.36
Lumber and Wood Products	251.52	225.62	220.40	41.3	38.7	40.0	6.09	5.83	5.51
Metals and Machinery	411.84	405.57	373.97	42.9	43.1	39.2	9.60	9.41	9.54
Food and Kindred Products	196.87	231.26	206.49	31.6	37.3	34.3	6.23	6.20	6.02
Printing and Publishing	277.49	250.37	239.32	32.8	29.7	29.4	8.46	8.43	8.14
Petroleum and Coal Products	573.04	549.43	505.13	49.4	47.0	46.3	11.60	11.69	10.91

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 19,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment for the Shreveport area has increased from 150,100 last month to 151,600, with most of the employment growth occurring in construction and services segments of nonmanufacturing.

The manufacturing employment total of 25,600 is slightly below the revised April estimate, but remains 3,200 above the year ago estimate. Employment gains during the past month in metals and machinery were offset by losses in transportation equipment employment.

The total for nonmanufacturing increased from the revised April estimate of 124,400 to 126,000 for May. The May, 1983 nonmanufacturing employment total was 124,600. The employment gains in services and construction accounts for 1,300 of the 1,600 increase during the past month. Only a slight employment growth occurred in mining, trade and finance, insurance and real estate segments of nonmanufacturing.

The Shreveport area has 19,700 production workers in manufacturing with average weekly earnings of $414.83. The revised average weekly earnings for April was $410.98 and the May, 1983 average was $365.98. The average weekly hours for production workers dropped slightly to 42.2 hours. The revised April average was 42.5 and 39.1 for May, 1983.Average hourly earnings were $9.83, compared to $9.67 last month and $9.36 one year ago.

The area has a civilian labor force of 171,900, comprised of 159,600 employed and 12,300 unemployed. The unemployment rate for May is 7.1 percent, down from the state rate of 8.9 percent, and the national rate of 7.5 percent.

Total unemployment for this area will show a gain during the next two months. This increase is seasonal and includes those seeking summer jobs. Total employment should remain stable during the summer period. The decline in government payrolls during the next three months will be offset by the hiring for summer as well as other employment needs.